

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-05 EB-08 AID-05 TRSE-00
DODE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10
CIAE-00 EA-10 EUR-12 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NASA-01
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APPROVED BY ACDA/WEC:BMBLECHMAN
ACDA/MA/IR: RSTRAND
IO/UNP: PBRIDGES
PM/ACDA: MARIETTI
EB/IDF: AWATSON
NSC: LDENEND (SUBS)
TREASURY: KBUTTON
DOD/ISA: SBUCKLEY
AID: MJHEYL

-----126421 062249Z /70

O R 062150Z SEP 78
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226052

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UNGA

SUBJECT: UN EXPERT STUDY ON DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

REFS: A) STATE 198188; B) USUN 01023; C) UN DOC A/S-10/9

GENEVA FOR US EXPERT, UN DISARMAMENT/DEVELOPMENT STUDY

1. THIS CABLE PROVIDES GUIDANCE FOR US EXPERT AT THE FIRST
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MEETING OF SUBJECT EXPERT GROUP, SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE
IN GENEVA SEPTEMBER 4-15 (REF. A).

2. BACKGROUND

THE PROPOSAL FOR EXPERT STUDY OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ORIGINATED WITH NORDIC COUN-

TRIES IN SSOD PREPCOM II.

UNGA RES. 32/88A, WHICH THE US CO-SPONSORED, ENDORSED PROPOSAL AND CALLED FOR AN AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS TO MEET IN MARCH 1978 TO PREPARE FOR THE STUDY. TERMS OF REFERENCE RECOMMENDED BY AD HOC GROUP (REFS B AND C) CLOSELY RESEMBLED ORIGINAL NORDIC PROPOSAL. THESE TERMS WERE APPROVED BY SSOD. FINAL SSOD DOCUMENT CALLED ON SYG TO INITIATE A STUDY WITH ASSISTANCE OF GROUP OF QUALIFIED GOVERNMENTAL

EXPERTS AND TO SUBMIT INTERIM REPORT TO 34TH UNGA AND FINAL REPORT TO 36TH UNGA.

TERMS OF REFERENCE DESIGNATED THREE MAIN AREAS:

A) PRESENT-DAY UTILIZATION OF RESOURCES FOR MILITARY PURPOSES; B) ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL EFFECTS OF A CONTINUING ARMS RACE AND OF IMPLEMENTATION OF DISARMAMENT MEASURES; AND C) CONVERSION AND REDEPLOYMENT OF RESOURCES RELEASED FROM MILITARY PURPOSES THROUGH DISARMAMENT TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

COUNTRY POSITIONS TAKEN IN MARCH AD HOC GROUP FOLLOWED PREDICTABLE PATTERNS. SWEDEN AND NORWAY WERE SYMPATHETIC TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BUT SWEDEN (THORSON) AS CHAIRMAN FIRMLY RESISTED EFFORTS TO INTRODUCE POLITICIZED ASPECTS, SUCH AS CONDITIONS OR PROPOSALS FOR BRINGING ABOUT DISARM-
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AMENT OR ALLOCATION OF DISARMAMENT SAVINGS.

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES EMPHASIZED THEIR DEVELOPMENT NEEDS AND NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER.

US AND ALLIES ENDEAVOURED TO MAINTAIN OBJECTIVITY AND ECONOMIC FOCUS IN THE EXERCISE. US EFFORTS TO INJECT MER CONSIDERATIONS WERE OPPOSED BY SWEDEN AND ONLY MILDLY SUPPORTED BY ALLIES. COMMUNIST BLOC COUNTRIES ADOPTED A LOW-KEY STANCE AND WERE SCARCELY DISTINGUISHABLE FROM THE WESTERN ALLIES IN THEIR RESISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRY CLAIMS ON RESOURCES FROM DISARMAMENT. THE SOVIET EXPERT MADE ONLY ONE VERY PERFUNCTORY MENTION OF SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS.

3. GUIDANCE

US EXPERT SHOULD SEEK TO MAINTAIN OBJECTIVE FOCUS ON ECONOMIC FACTORS IN EXPERTS' REPORT WITH RESPECT TO PROSPECTS AND NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR DISARMAMENT MEASURES THAT COULD LEAD TO RELEASE OF RESOURCES. HE SHOULD OPPOSE ANY ATTEMPT TO INCORPORATE IN REPORT STATEMENTS SUPPORTING

AUTOMATIC LINKAGE BETWEEN RESOURCES RELEASED BY DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. AT SAME TIME, HE SHOULD BE SYMPATHETIC TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' INTEREST IN THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND MAY ACCEPT FORMULATIONS EXPRESSING BELIEF THAT RESOURCES RELEASED THROUGH DISARMAMENT MAY INCREASE THE OVERALL AVAILABILITY OF SUCH RESOURCES FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND PARTICULARLY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

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FYI - A THREAT BY EGYPT AT THE MARCH AD HOC GROUP TO ATTEMPT TO POLITICIZE THE EXPERT GROUP HAS BEEN DROPPED IN THE FACE OF MEXICAN OPPOSITION ACCORDING TO NORWEGIAN SOURCES AT THE SSOD. END FYI.
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EXPERT SHOULD SEEK APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITIES TO STRESS NEED FOR UNIVERSAL AND MUTUAL ADVANCEMENT OF DISARMAMENT AS WELL AS DEVELOPMENT AND DESIRABILITY OF STEPS LEADING TO GREATER MILITARY OPENNESS, INCLUDING SUCH MEASURES AS STANDARDIZED MILITARY EXPENDITURE REPORTING (MER). MER WOULD ASSIST IN THE STUDY, AS WELL AS IN PROVIDING CONDITIONS FOR DISARMAMENT.

THE US DELEGATE SHOULD OPPOSE REFERENCES CRITICIZING OR EXCESSIVELY SINGLING OUT THE US WITH RESPECT TO ARMAMENTS AND THE ARMS RACE. EFFORTS TO EQUATE THE TWO SUPERPOWERS IN TERMS OF THEIR DEVELOPMENT AID RECORD SHOULD ALSO BE OPPOSED.

ANY US COMMITMENT TO ADDITIONAL EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF THE EXPERT GROUP STUDY SHOULD BE AVOIDED WITHOUT FURTHER CONSULTATIONS AND GUIDANCE. CHRISTOPHER

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